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Letter dated 15 October 2004 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism addressed to the President of the Security Council

On 6 July 2004, the Committee established pursuant to paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) (the Counter-Terrorism Committee) submitted a work programme for the twelfth 90-day period (S/2004/541). Annexed hereto is the Committee's work programme for the thirteenth 90-day period, which covers the months from October to December 2004 (see annex).

The activities of the Committee will proceed in compliance with the provisions of Security Council resolutions 1535 (2004) and 1566 (2004).

The Committee will continue to work with States on monitoring the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), operating on the principles of cooperation, transparency and equal treatment. The Committee's main objectives will continue to be maintaining and strengthening the consensus within the international community on the importance of combating terrorism, with particular emphasis on undertaking practical measures designed to increase the capabilities of States to combat terrorism; helping to identify and address the problems faced by States in implementing Council resolution 1373 (2001); and upholding international coordination and cooperation by, for instance, contributing to the process of increasing the number of States that are parties to the relevant international conventions and protocols. All of these tasks contribute to the Committee's mandate, as set out in paragraph 6 of the resolution, to monitor its implementation.

The thirteenth work programme covers the period during which the Committee will move to the final stage of its revitalization. In accordance with Security Council resolutions 1535 (2004) and 1566 (2004), the Committee will continue its efforts to ensure the full operational status of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and further increase the Committee's capacity, inter alia, through enhanced cooperation with the Al-Qaida/Taliban sanctions committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004).

The Committee will continue its work in the areas of technical assistance and cooperation with international organizations in accordance with the decisions adopted by the Committee. It remains committed to maintaining direct dialogue and information exchange with Member States on the implementation of Security

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Council resolution 1373 (2001) which will be enhanced by the planned visits of the Committee to States with the concerned State's consent.

The Committee welcomes the support received from Member States, the United Nations Secretariat and international, regional and subregional organizations, and appreciates the contribution of its team of experts.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Andrey I. **Denisov**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established pursuant to
resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

Annex

Work programme of the Counter-Terrorism Committee

(1 October-31 December 2004)

1. The present document sets out the work programme of the Counter-Terrorism Committee for its thirteenth 90-day period, from 1 October to 31 December 2004. This work programme updates that submitted for the twelfth 90-day period (S/2004/541).

Summary

2. The Committee will:

(a) Continue close cooperation with the Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate with the goal of implementing the organizational plan of the Directorate and making it fully operational in the shortest possible time;

(b) Continue the preparation for the fourth special meeting of the Counter-Terrorism Committee with international, regional and subregional organizations;

(c) By 31 October:

(i) Continue to circulate the States Assistance Matrix on a monthly basis, to identify assistance needs and offers;

(ii) Complete the review of 15 further reports;

(iii) Continue to prepare and begin to send to countries assessments of their assistance needs for eventual sharing with interested donor States and organizations;

(iv) The Chairman will make a joint briefing with the Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to Security Council resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban to interested delegations on cooperation of the Committees, including exchange of information;

(v) Decide on the first States to be visited by the Committee and begin practical preparations, following the general guidelines and procedure adopted by the Committee;

(d) By 30 November:

(i) Complete the review of 15 further reports;

(ii) The Chairman will send to the Security Council the list of States that have been late in the submission of their reports;

(e) By 31 December:

(i) Complete the review of 10 further reports;

(ii) Begin in consultation with relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and United Nations bodies, to develop a set of best practices to assist States in implementing the provisions of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) related to the financing of terrorism.

I. Implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001)

3. The Committee and its subcommittees will continue to review the reports submitted by States pursuant to paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001).

4. By 30 September 2004, the Committee had received 526 reports from States and others. They include first reports from 191 Member States and 6 from others, 160 second reports from Member States and 2 from others, 117 third reports from Member States and 1 from other, and 49 fourth reports from Member States. As indicated earlier, all States have submitted their first reports.

5. Nevertheless, 78 States have missed the deadlines for submission of their respective reports. The Committee urges all States that have not submitted their reports on time to submit them as soon as possible in fulfilment of the provisions of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001). The Committee remains ready to work with them to find a way to progress towards the common objective of combating terrorism under the terms established by resolution 1373 (2001). The Chairman of the Committee will continue to provide the Council with the list of States late in the submission of their reports. The Committee will maintain universality and speed of response in compliance with provisions of resolution 1373 (2001).

6. In accordance with Security Council resolution 1456 (2003), the Committee will continue to report regularly on the progress made by States regarding their obligation to report to the Council pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001).

7. Underlining the importance for all States to become parties as soon as possible to the relevant international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism contained in paragraph 3 (d) of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and paragraph 2 (a) of the declaration annexed to Council resolution 1456 (2003), the Committee will continue to encourage Member States to join as soon as possible the 12 pertinent international conventions and protocols and to ensure the compliance of their domestic legislation with them.

II. Work of the Committee

8. On 29 July 2004, the Committee had endorsed an organizational plan for the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate that, in accordance with Security Council resolution 1535 (2004), had been submitted by the Executive Director of the Directorate, in consultation with and through the Secretary-General to the Committee plenary. On 12 August 2004, the Council endorsed the organizational plan of the Directorate (S/2004/642, annex II, enclosure). The Committee will maintain a close and cooperative relationship with the Executive Director and his staff in order to implement this plan and to make the new structure operational as soon as possible. One of the main objectives of the Committee will be

to ensure the effectiveness of the Committee, including its subcommittees and expert group, during the transitional period and to avoid possible negative side effects on its activities of the Committee reform.

9. Moving to the final stage of its revitalization process, the Committee will pay special attention to the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1535 (2004) and 1566 (2004). In accordance with these resolutions, the Committee will continue its efforts to ensure the full operational status of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and further increase the Committee's capacity, inter alia, through enhanced cooperation with the Al-Qaida/Taliban sanctions committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004).

10. The Committee will continue its efforts aimed at facilitating technical assistance to Member States and reinforcing coordination and cooperation with international, regional and subregional organizations. It will seek the most effective and innovative means of undertaking activities in these priority areas.

11. On 4 August 2004, the Committee adopted general guidelines for conducting Committee visits to Member States. Visits are recognized in the Committee report on its revitalization (S/2004/124) and in Security Council resolution 1535 (2004) as a new tool to be used by the Committee in order effectively to fulfil its mandate to monitor implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) and facilitate the provision of technical and other assistance for such implementation. On 16 September 2004, the Committee also approved the procedures for the preparation, conduct and evaluation of the results of Committee visits to Member States. Pursuant to the provisions of resolution 1566 (2004) during the thirteenth work programme, the Committee will proceed with the practical preparation for the first Committee visits to be made to Member States with their consent.

12. While pursuing a case-by-case approach in monitoring the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), the Committee will bear in mind all international best practices, codes and standards that are relevant to the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001). In compliance with resolution 1566 (2004), it will start, in consultation with relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and United Nations bodies, to develop a set of best practices to assist States in implementing the provisions of resolution 1373 (2001) related to the financing of terrorism.

III. Technical assistance

13. The facilitation of the provision of technical assistance aimed at strengthening counter-terrorism capacity-building of countries in need will remain one of the fundamental commitments of the Committee. The Committee will continue its work relying on enhancing direct dialogue with Member States and the donor community on the issues of providing technical assistance that is better tailored to real needs.

14. The Committee has approved a guidance document on the assessments of countries' assistance needs. This will become an additional part of Committee expertise, based on reports of Member States on counter-terrorism capabilities. With the consent of the States concerned, these assessments will be shared with interested

donor States and organizations in order to facilitate the provision of technical assistance for effective implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001).

15. The Committee has developed the Directory of Counter-Terrorism Information and Sources of Assistance, which can be consulted on its web site, at http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/committees/1373/ctc_da/index.html. The Directory is designed to be a source of information on counter-terrorism-related best practices, model laws and available assistance programmes. The Committee has also produced an Assistance Matrix to collect updated information on requests received from States and on assistance offered by potential providers, including international, regional and subregional organizations. The Committee will maintain both information resources. On 29 July 2004, in a special note, the Chairman of the CTC requested all Members States to submit necessary additional information for these resources on a regular basis (SCA/3/04 (03)).

16. The Committee encourages all relevant organizations to contact it on a regular basis to ensure that the information provided is both accurate and useful for Member States seeking technical assistance. The Committee also encourages organizations to continue to submit information on international best practices, codes and standards relevant to the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and on any forms of assistance and guidance in implementing those best practices, codes and standards.

IV. Transparency in the work of the Committee

17. The Committee will uphold transparency as one of the basic principles of its work.

18. The Committee will continue to provide information on its activities on a regular basis, inter alia, through briefings of interested delegations by the Chairman. The next briefing will be held in October. As a general rule, the Chair will brief interested delegations at least once every 30 days.

19. The Committee will update its web site (http://www.un.org/sc/ctc) as a source of detailed information on all issues related to Security Council resolution 1373 (2001).

20. The Committee, through its Chairman, the Executive Director and, where appropriate, the Committee's experts, will continue to maintain close relations with organizations and programmes of the United Nations system on aspects relevant to international counter-terrorism efforts, within the scope of the mandate contained in Security Council resolution 1373 (2001).

21. Until the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate becomes fully operational, States are encouraged to make direct contact with the subcommittees or experts to seek any clarification on the issues covered in their correspondence with the Committee or on any other issue (tel.: 1-212-963-3520 or 1-212-457-1266; fax: 1-917-367-5897; e-mail: ctc@un.org). In addition, the Committee's experts, and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, once it becomes fully operational, may, when it is deemed appropriate, contact States to seek further clarification from them on issues arising from their reports.

V. Cooperation between the Committee and international, regional and subregional organizations

22. Pursuant to the action plan agreed at the special meeting of the Committee held on 6 March 2003, the Committee has been expanding its contacts and cooperation with international, regional and subregional organizations. In accordance with Security Council resolution 1566 (2004), the Committee will continue its efforts to strengthen its interaction with these organizations in order to facilitate full and timely implementation of resolution 1373 (2001). It will continue consultations with interested organizations on the preparation of the fourth special meeting of the Committee with international, regional and subregional organizations guided by the same principles and practices that prevailed during the previous special meeting of the Committee.

23. The Committee, through its Chairman and the Executive Director, and, where appropriate, the Committee's experts will continue to establish new and deepen existing contacts with organizations outside the United Nations system by attending regional meetings and conferences.

VI. Future work of the Committee

24. The Committee, inter alia, through the Chair, will work closely with the Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate in order to contribute to its success in the implementation of the provisions of Security Council resolutions 1535 (2004) and 1566 (2004).